

# KAEC NOTES

## Fall 2005

Kentucky Department of Agriculture • 500 Mero Street, 7th Floor, Frankfort, KY 40601  
Published by Kentucky Agriculture and Environment in the Classroom, Inc.

## Agriculture Adventures: Kentucky

Agriculture Adventures: Kentucky is off to a great start! At this time, the program has been scheduled for about 106 programs for this school year, which is way beyond our expectations! It's not too late to schedule this exciting program for your school!

This program begins with an exciting 45-minute assembly to introduce the topic of agriculture to the entire school. Students will be delighted during the "Lunch Room Live" assembly, where COSI's facilitator, Chef Parmesan, makes a "pizza" using soil as the first ingredient. Students travel from the farm to the dinner table while learning about field preparation, photosynthesis, processing wheat, and making cheese – essential steps for any pizza.



After the assembly, the learning continues as students conduct hands-on experiments. Chef Parmesan and 12-15 adult volunteers (provided by the host school) guide the students through a series of experiments and experiences that build upon the information presented in the assembly. Students can milk a "cow" with an actual milking machine, grind wheat into flour while learning about simple machines, test soil samples for pH and then decide what crops would be good to plant in that soil, plus much more.

Agriculture Adventures: Kentucky is available to schools throughout Kentucky.



The cost of the daylong program is \$875. COSI on Wheels can accommodate 480 students per school day. For a school to participate in the program, prior access is needed to the gymnasium/cafeteria to set-up eight 8-foot tables. Also 12-15 adult volunteers are needed for the duration of the school day to help with the learning stations.



To reserve Agriculture Adventures: Kentucky call 1-888-819-2674 ext. 1703 or visit [www.cosi.org](http://www.cosi.org), to submit a reservation online. Due to the outstanding response to these programs, all requests are tentative until confirmed by COSI in writing on your deposit invoice. A nonrefundable deposit of \$200 per day is due after you have received your invoice with the balance due no later than two months before your program date. COSI is a non-profit organization.

COSI's AGRICULTURE ADVENTURES – KENTUCKY is presented by COSI on Wheels, with the assistance and sponsorship of Kentucky Agriculture and Environment in the Classroom, Inc., the Kentucky Cattlemen's Association, the Kentucky Pork Producers Association, the West Kentucky Grower Co-op, Kentucky Corn Growers, Kentucky Soybean Association and the Kentucky Small Grain Growers.

### What's in the Foods You Eat – Search Tool

U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service (ARS) has developed a database that allows users to view a 60-nutrient profile for more than 13,000 foods. Search by using descriptive words and the foods containing your key words will be displayed. This database can help consumers make decisions about their food choices. Go to <http://www.ars.usda.gov/Services/docs.htm?docid=7783> to view the database.

### USGS Water Science for School

<http://www.ga.water.usgs.gov/edu>

This website offers information about water, such as the earth's water, water properties, water use, and much more and includes a picture gallery, activity center, and glossary of water terms.

### Kentucky Clean Fuels Coalition

<http://www.kentuckycleanfuels.org>

Find information on clean fuels that help improve air quality. Information on biodiesel, compressed natural gas, ethanol, electric, hybrid electric, and propane can be found at this site.

#### Did you know?

- the cashew nut is a member of the poison ivy family?
- ketchup was sold in the 1830's as a medicine?
- Hawaii is the only U.S. state that produces coffee?

---

## 2006 Agriculture Day in Kentucky Poster and Essay Contest Information Sponsored by the Kentucky Department of Agriculture

Agriculture Week across the nation is scheduled for March 19-25, 2006. Traditionally, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture sponsors an Agriculture Day poster and essay contest. The theme for 2006 is: "Kentucky Agriculture: Growing for the Future".

### Eligibility

- The poster and essay contests are open to all Kentucky students in grades 1 through 8.
- All artwork and writing material must be exclusively student-created.
- Students may enter both poster and essay contests.
- Each submission must be accompanied by a completed entry form paper-clipped to the back right-hand corner of the poster and essay.
- Entries become the property of the Kentucky Department of Agriculture and will not be returned.

### Criteria

#### Poster

- Draw a picture demonstrating the contest theme. The theme "Kentucky Agriculture: Growing for our Future" should be included in the artwork.
- Each drawing should be in color. (DO NOT use colored pencils because they do not reproduce well.)
- Each picture should be drawn on white paper, mounted and framed with either poster board, heavy paper, or mat board. The total dimensions of the entry should not exceed 18" x 24".
- Entries will NOT be accepted if they are folded or rolled.

#### Essay

- Write an essay describing the contest theme.
- Students in grades 1 through 3 should submit no more than 150 words.
- Students in grades 4 through 8 should submit no more than 250 words.

**DEADLINE:** Entries must be postmarked by Friday, February 24. Mail entries to: Kentucky Department of Agriculture, Poster and Essay Contest, 500 Mero Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Frankfort, KY 40601.

### Awards

Winners will be notified by March 10, 2006. Each statewide grade winner will receive \$100 Savings Bond and be recognized at the Kentucky Agriculture Day Awards Program. Essays and posters will be featured in various department publications and special events.

For a complete listing of rules and regulations, go to [http://www.kyagr.com/mkt\\_promo/education/kaec/index.htm](http://www.kyagr.com/mkt_promo/education/kaec/index.htm) for entry forms and resources on the topic. You can also view last year's winners at this site. For more information contact Rayetta Boone or Teresa Prather at the Kentucky Department of Agriculture at (502) 564-4696.

## New license plate supports Kentucky Agriculture and the Environment in the Classroom, Inc.

Since you're receiving this newsletter you already know about the educational programs that the Kentucky Department of Agriculture offers - KAEC and Food, Land and People. Now you have the opportunity to give something back and help other educators have the same great experience you had during one of our workshops!

By purchasing the new "Kentucky Proud" license plate, you're helping support KAEC and furthering the education of educators across the state in learning about our connection to agriculture. "Kentucky Proud" defines agricultural products that are grown, raised or processed in Kentucky by Kentuckians. The Kentucky Department of Agriculture is committed to helping our farmers and producers promote their Kentucky products. Learn more about "Kentucky Proud" by visiting [www.kentuckyproud.com](http://www.kentuckyproud.com).

In order for the specialty plate to be produced, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet must receive 900 orders by March 18, 2006. This plate contains a large red, blue and green Kentucky Proud logo and the KDA marketing program's slogan, "Nothing else is close."

An initial fee of \$25 is due at the time of application for the new plate, and a renewal fee of \$20 is charged each year. To request an application, call (859) 327-1177, e-mail Maria Maldonado at [maria.maldonado@ky.gov](mailto:maria.maldonado@ky.gov) or write: Kentucky Proud License Application Request, c/o Maria Maldonado, Kentucky Department of Agriculture, 500 Mero Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Frankfort, KY 40601.

So be "Kentucky Proud", show your support of KAEC and our local farmers and producers by purchasing a "Kentucky Proud" license plate.





West Point kindergarten students in Mrs. Amy Wood's class enjoyed FLP's Buzzy, Buzzy Bee activity during their study of insects. Mrs. Wood learned this game at the Department of Agriculture's KAEC professional development workshop this past summer. Pictured left to right: Jared Brown, Jason Lyons, Gabrielle Stinson as flowers and Bailey Priddy and Brianna Greenwell as bees.



It takes 100 pounds of rain water to produce a single pound of food from the earth. Between 10 and 20 tons of water must pass through the roots of an acre of corn before one bushel of corn will be produced.

### Have an "Ag in the Classroom" story?

If you have a story about how you use *Project Food, Land & People* lessons in your classroom, we'd love to hear about it. It could be a great inspiration to other teachers to see how you conduct a particular activity and they might try it themselves. Call or e-mail your story and we'll take care of writing the story and even taking pictures. Your story might be included in this newsletter, our department quarterly newspaper *Kentucky Agriculture News*, and on our Web site. We'd love to hear from you! Contact Rayetta Boone by e-mail at [rayetta.boone@ky.gov](mailto:rayetta.boone@ky.gov) or Teresa Prather at [teresa.prather@ky.gov](mailto:teresa.prather@ky.gov) or you can reach either by phone at (502) 564-4696.





### **HEALTHY SPROUTS AWARD**

The National Gardening Association and Gardener's Supply Company have partnered to support schools and community organizations that use gardens to teach about nutrition and explore the issue of hunger in the United States. Each of twenty-five programs receives an award package of seeds, tools, garden products, and educational resources for growing a vegetable garden. Five of these programs also receive \$500 cash and a \$200 gift certificate to the Gardener's Supply Company catalog. The selection of winners is based on the demonstrated relationship between the garden and nutrition education and hunger awareness. At least 10% of the food produced from the program should be donated. Applications for the 2006 cycle will be available soon.

Application deadline: TBA Go to:

<http://www.kidsgardening.com/awards.asp#bulbs>  
to download the application.

### **<http://www.enature.com/>**

This site gives you access to field guides for more than 4800 species of plants and animals. Start a list for you, as an individual or for your class, and add species as you see them. Find out more about various habitats in the U.S., or ask an expert about a species you have observed.

### **<http://ei.cornell.edu/>**

The mission of Environmental Inquiry (EI) is to support teaching and learning about the environmental sciences through teacher education, curriculum research and development, and scientific inquiry by students and teachers in grades 7-16. This site offers resources to aid development of meaningful research projects in the areas of toxicology, watersheds, ecology and biodegradation.

### **<http://www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/gpe/>**

Detective LePlant guides students through the information they need about plants and the part they play in our lives. In six multi-disciplinary lessons, plants, dirt, flowers, and bulbs are the centers of attention. A teacher's guide integrates the lessons and online quizzes with other classroom ideas.

### **<http://museum.agropolis.fr/english/default.htm>**

Agropolis-Museum is a Science Center with three online exhibitions: The History of Food and Agriculture, Farmers and Farming over the World, and the Banquet de l'Humanité. Visitors will find a global perspective of agriculture and the foods consumed by people in different nations. This site is available in both English and French.

### **<http://www.cyberbee.com/>**

This is a great site for teachers looking for more ways to integrate technology into their classroom. Look to the Curriculum Ideas, How Tos, Treasure Hunts, and the fine articles to give you fresh ideas.

### **<http://www.amnh.org/nationalcenter/infection/index.html>**

This site offers a cute, online magazine from the American Museum of Natural History. Divided into sections: Meet the Microbes, with colorful definitions of viruses, bacteria, and protozoa; Bacteria in the Cafeteria, a simple game to help children become aware of potential dangers; Infection, a board game that lets you break through the human defense system; How Lou Got the Flu, which explains how infectious diseases spread; Amazing Microbe Hunters, that teaches about early innovators; and the Mixed Up Microbe Mystery, which puts players into the position of Epidemiologists — disease detectives who track down the causes behind diseases and find ways to control them.



Teachers at Bear Wallow Farm in Nancy, KY.



Student teachers at Murray State University.



Yes, Dr. Morgan, you'll always be #1!



Teachers at Oak Wood Mushrooms farm in Elizabethtown.



You call this stuff what?



Honey taste testing at the Elizabethtown workshop.



New inductee into the Manure Movers of America!

***Don't  
Forget!***

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**January**

5-6 - KAEC Workshop, University of Louisville

10 - KAEC Workshop, Murray State University

- National Oatmeal Month - [www.quakeroatmeal.com](http://www.quakeroatmeal.com)
- National Soup Month

**February**

24 - Deadline for poster & essay contest entries (see page 3)

- American Heart Month - [www.americanheart.org](http://www.americanheart.org)
- Celebration of Chocolate Month
- Sweet Potato Month

**March**

1 - National Pig Day

10 - KAEC Workshop, Western Kentucky University

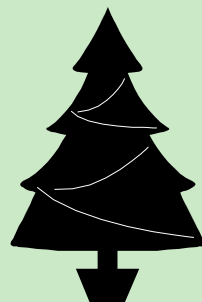
20 - National Agriculture Day

19-25 - National Agriculture Week

**April**

- National Garden Month

More than one million acres of land have been planted in Christmas trees. The industry employs over 100,000 people. Many Christmas tree growers grow trees on a part-time basis to supplement farm and non-farm income.



KAEC NOTES is a publication of Kentucky Agriculture and Environment in the Classroom, Inc., P.O. Box 814, Frankfort, KY 40602-0814. For more information on KAEC contact: Rayetta Boone, Assistant Director, Kentucky Department of Agriculture, 500 Mero Street, 7th Floor, Frankfort, KY 40601. Phone: (502) 564-4696. Fax: (502) 564-2133. E-mail: [rayetta.boone@ky.gov](mailto:rayetta.boone@ky.gov). Editor & Designer: Teresa Prather.

KAEC  
P. O. Box 814  
Frankfort, KY 40602-0814